

Application No.: ~~11/553,812~~
Amendment Date: 26 Jun 2008
Reply to Office Action of: 28 Mar 2008

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 16 on page 6 with the following paragraph.

--~~FIGURE 3 shows~~ FIGURES 3A, 3B, 3C, and 3D show an alignment of the human (SEQ ID NO:17, *see* Fathi et al., *supra*), rat (SEQ ID NO:18, *see* Liu et al., WO 03/014310) and rhesus monkey (SEQ ID NO:1) BRS-3 nucleotide sequences. Nucleotides that are different among the BRS-3 sequences are shown in bold. Dashes indicate that spaces were added to facilitate the alignment. A consensus sequence (SEQ ID NO:19), derived by comparing the above nucleotide sequences, is also shown.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 21 on page 6 with the following paragraph.

--~~FIGURE 4 shows~~ FIGURES 4A and 4B show an alignment of the human (SEQ ID NO:20, *see* Fathi et al., *supra*), rat (SEQ ID NO:21, *see* Liu et al., WO 03/014310) and rhesus monkey (SEQ ID NO:2) BRS-3 open reading frames. Amino acids that are different among the BRS-3 sequences are shown in bold. Dashes indicate that spaces were added to facilitate the alignment. A consensus sequence (SEQ ID NO:22), derived by comparing the above protein sequences, is also shown.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 7 on page 14 with the following paragraph.

--Human BRS-3 has been implicated in the regulation of neuroendocrine function and energy metabolism (Ohki *et al.* *Nature* 390: 165-69 (1997)). In addition, mice lacking functional BRS-3 are hyperphagic and have a reduced metabolic rate, which leads to the development of obesity, hypertension and diabetes as adults. The present invention demonstrates that rhesus monkey and human BRS-3 have the same tissue-specific expression patterns (see EXAMPLE 3), and share high sequence similarity (see ~~FIGURES 3 and 4~~ FIGURES 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, and 4B), suggesting an involvement of rhesus monkey BRS3 in energy homeostasis. These observations support the notion that rhesus monkey provides a good animal model to develop BRS-3 agonists as therapeutic agents for obesity.--